

[illegible]

~~1. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
input means for inputting image data;  
processing means for quantizing error-correction data  
obtained by adding error data to the image data input by  
said input means so that data having at least two levels are  
generated; and~~

allocation means for allocating the error data generated when the quantization is performed to image data which are not quantized;

wherein in response to a predetermined level of said error-correction data, said processing means outputs, as a result of quantization, a different level from a level resulting from fundamental processing for said predetermined level so as to prevent a pseudocontour from being generated.

2. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said allocation means allocates, as the error data, the difference between said error-correction data and the quantized data having a different level from a level resulting from fundamental processing.

3. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising an output means for outputting, based on



~~error-correction data and the quantized data having a different level from a level resulting from fundamental processing is allocated as the error data.~~

7. An image processing method according to Claim 5, further comprising an output step for outputting, based on the data having at least two levels from said processing step, an image in which the sizes of dots are controlled.

8. An image processing method according to Claim 5, wherein in said output step, ink-jet printing is used to record an image.

9. An image processing method for allocating, as a quantized error, the difference between an input image density and a quantized image density to surrounding pixels around a pixel of interest, and setting the average of the quantized densities to be equal to said input image density.

said image processing method comprising:

a first step for finding error correction data by adding said input image density and error data allocated from the surrounding pixels; and

a second step for outputting, based on the error correction data obtained in said first step, error data and predetermined quantized data for the surrounding pixels,

~~which are prestored in a table;~~

wherein in the table, a different level from a level resulting from fundamental processing in accordance with a predetermined level of the error correction data is stored as quantized data.

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